



St. Barnabas Lutheran Church
15600 Old Rockford Road
Plymouth, MN 55446

November 12, 2009

Dear Navigator and Parents,

The 7th Grade Retreat at Luther Park Bible Camp in Danbury, WI is scheduled for Friday, January 8 to Sunday, January 10. The purpose of this retreat is to provide our students with an opportunity to openly discuss values and choices about sexuality and to understand that their sexuality is a gift from God. Five primary topics will be discussed: We Are Valued Creations of God, dating and healthy relationships, and images of sexuality through various mediums. Additionally, fun activities are being planned so there will be time for play.

In the real world, kids acquire sexual information through a complex combination of reading, music, television, movies, talking with friends, watching adults, and dating. The perception they construct is what ultimately forms their sexual attitudes, opinions, values and behavior for life.

We encourage you to make this retreat weekend a priority for your child, and we also encourage parents to participate in all or part of the retreat. Currently Sherie Hermann, Pastor Chris and I are signed up to attend the whole weekend retreat and Sarah Seltz and Robby Sanders have signed up to participate on Saturday. Would love for more parents to join us, especially another adult to help with transportation to and from Luther Park!

We will depart from St. Barnabas at 6:00 pm on Friday, January 8 (no dinner meal is planned, so eat before you leave), and return on Sunday, January 10 at 11:30 am. See backside of letter for “*what to bring*”.

Student cost for the retreat is \$50.00. If the cost would prevent you from coming to the retreat, please see Dennis Manson, Pastor Wayne, or Pastor Chris for scholarship needs.

I look forward to a fun weekend with you! Many blessings for a Christ-filled Holidays!

In Christ’s Love,

Dennis Manson
Lay Minister to Youth & Family
(763) 242-6819

7th Grade Sexuality Retreat
January 8-10, 2010

Homework Assignment:

- **Interview parents on ideas and expectations about dating, write down their responses on pink sheet and bring it with you to Luther Park.**
- **Bring magazines (teen and adult) that can be used for cutting out pictures.**

What to Bring:

- ___ Sleeping Bag
- ___ Pillow
- ___ Paper, Pen
- ___ A Book or Two
- ___ Bible
- ___ Flashlight
- ___ Towels
- ___ Personal Toiletries
- ___ Snow Gear/Boots/Seasonal Clothing
- ___ **Helmet if you plan to play hockey*******
- ___ Ice Skates/hockey sticks
- ___ Magazines (bring 1-2 that can be used for cutting out pictures)
- ___ Snacks to Share
- ___ Money for Pop Machine
- ___ Excitement

What to Leave Behind:

- ___ Fireworks, Firearms, Weapons
- ___ Alcohol / Drugs
- ___ Cell Phone
- ___ Stress
- ___ MP3, CD Players...sorry no electronics

Departure:

Depart promptly at 6 p.m. on Friday, January 8 so come a few minutes early for loading

Return:

Return to St. Barnabas on Sunday, January 10 at 11:30 a.m.

PARENTS IDEAS AND EXPECTATIONS ABOUT DATING

Interview your parent(s) (or other adult, if necessary), using these questions. Record his or her answers, and bring to the 7th Grade Retreat.

1. When is a good age to begin to date?
2. Who should do the asking? Why?
3. What are some guidelines to follow about whom to date (kinds of people, age range, etc.)?
4. Who should pay for the date?
5. Are there some other family standards and expectations, such as hours to be expected home or a specific age of a person who's driving on a date?
6. What's the purpose of dating? Why do people date?